Cape Cod Gateway Airport Environmental Review for Improvement Projects

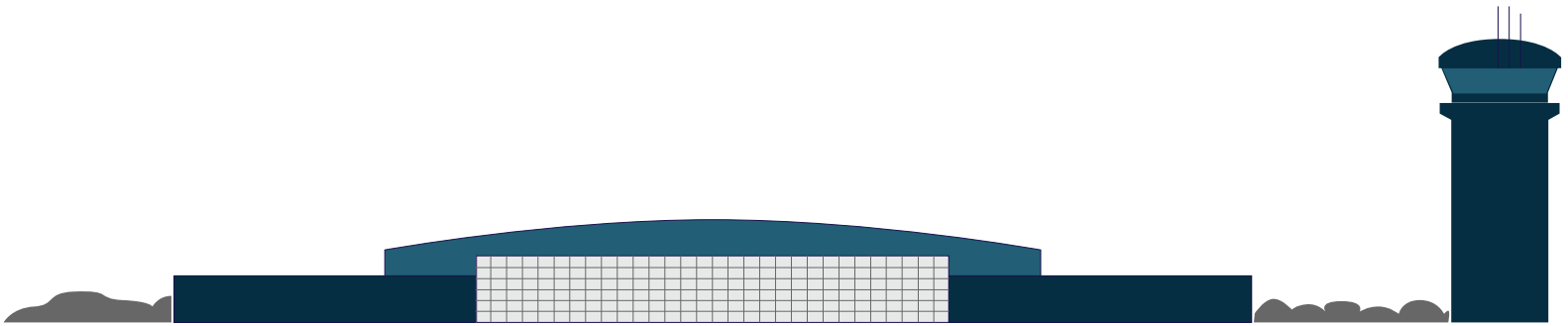
Public Outreach Meeting #1

Thursday, October 27, 2022

6:00 p.m.

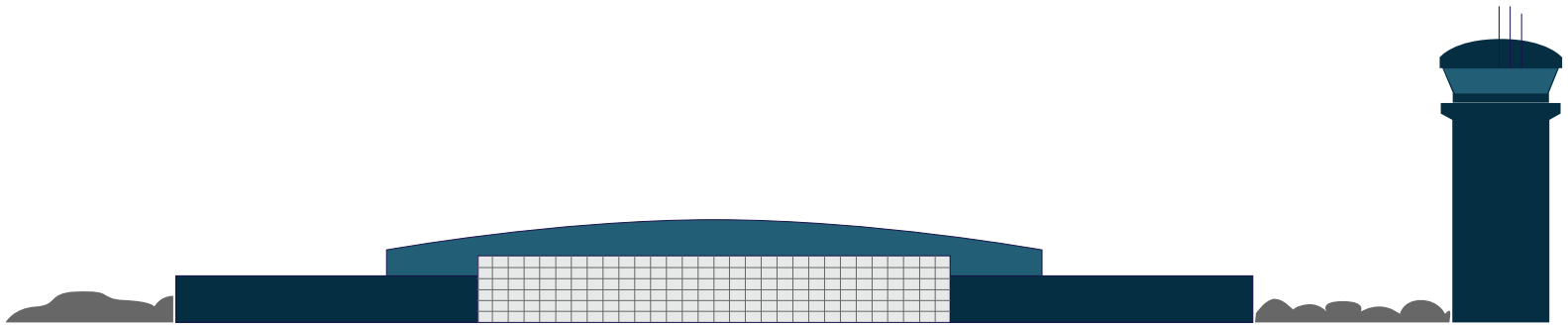
Agenda

- ✈Welcome & Introductions
- ✈Meeting Guidelines
- ✈Airport History and 2022 Master Plan
- ✈Environmental Review Process
  - Project Team and Roles
  - Environmental Justice and Public Outreach
  - Federal, State and Local review steps
- ✈Timeline of Review
- ✈Questions



Meeting Guidelines

- ✈ The speakers will cover topics listed in the agenda
- ✈ After the presentation, time will be provided for Questions and Answers
  - Please state your name and your relationship to the project before your question
  - Please share only 1 question or comment at a time, to allow others to participate
  - All questions and comments are welcome and appreciated, however, we do request that you refrain from any disrespectful comments



Cape Cod Gateway Airport Leadership

Airport Commission

Chair, John Griffin

Vice Chair, John Flores

Clerk, Norman Weill

Bradley Bailey

Wendy Bierwirth

Joe DiGeorge

Clerk Norman Weill

Mark A. Guiod

Councilor Eric R. Steinhilber (liaison)

Airport Management

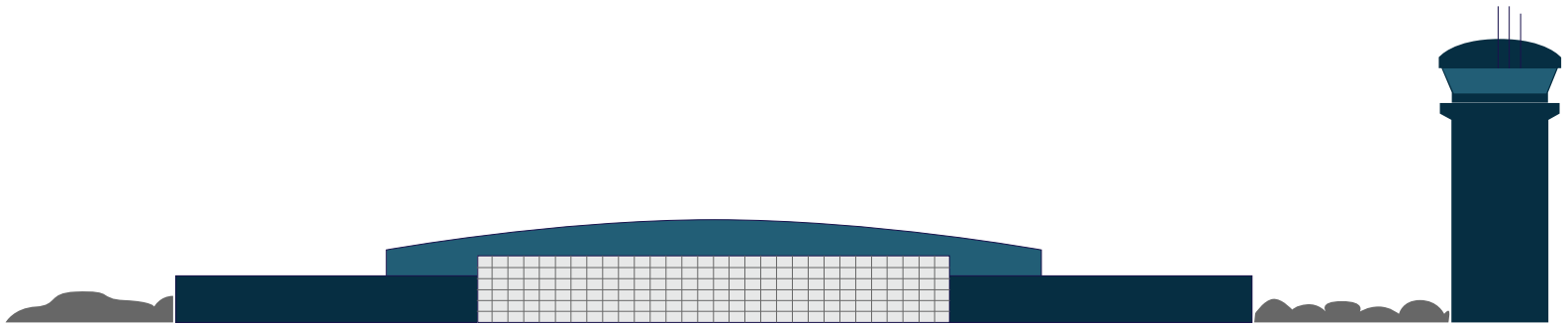
Katie Servis, Airport Manager

Matthew Elia, Assistant Airport Manager

Suzanne Kennedy, Executive Assistant to the Airport Manager

Mary McDonald, Financial Analyst

Christina Lounsbury, Security/Noise Abatement Coordinator



Airport Background - History

- ✈ Created in the 1930's
- ✈ Used by the U.S. Navy during WWII
- ✈ Conveyed to Town of Barnstable in 1948 for use as an airport
- ✈ Airport manages 639 acres, 140 acres of which are paved for runways, taxiways, aprons, parking lots, rooftops and roads as an Enterprise Fund of the Town of Barnstable

GATEWAY CAPE COD AIRPORT

Airport Background - Today

Commercial, Charter, Corporate and General Aviation users

- home to over 65 businesses/private users
- Cape Air, Jet Blue, Atlantic Aviation (formerly Ross Aviation)

Assets

- 35,000 sq. ft. passenger terminal,
- 85 ft. air traffic control tower
- extensive parking facilities
- new aircraft ramps,
- taxiways
- airport rescue firefighting team,
- maintenance building
- aircraft fuel farm
- 40 plus private tenants lease hangar space

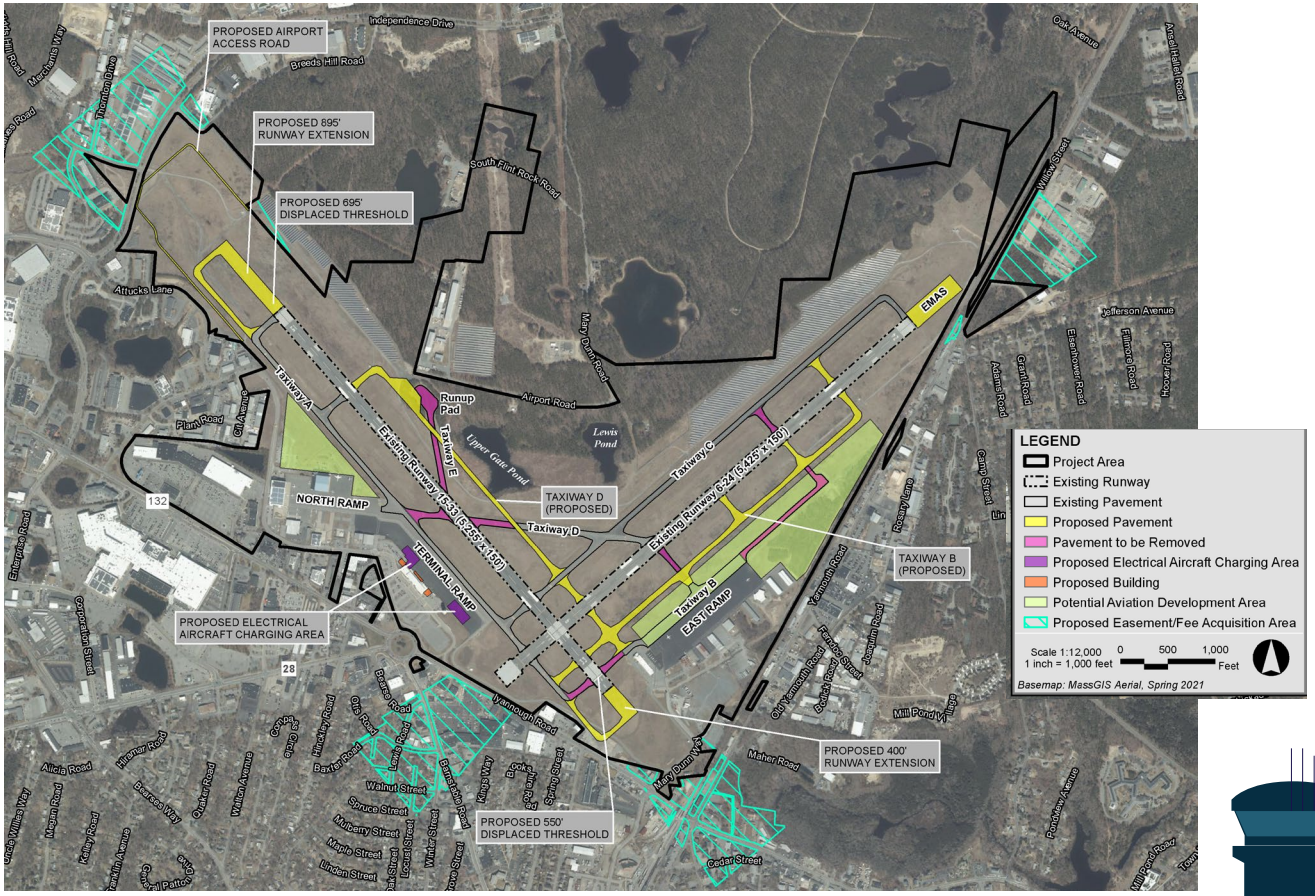
Economic Impact Analysis

- employment for 1,724 people, with an annual payroll in excess of $73.8 million
- regional economic output in excess of $157.2 million.
- 24 airport employees that operate the facility

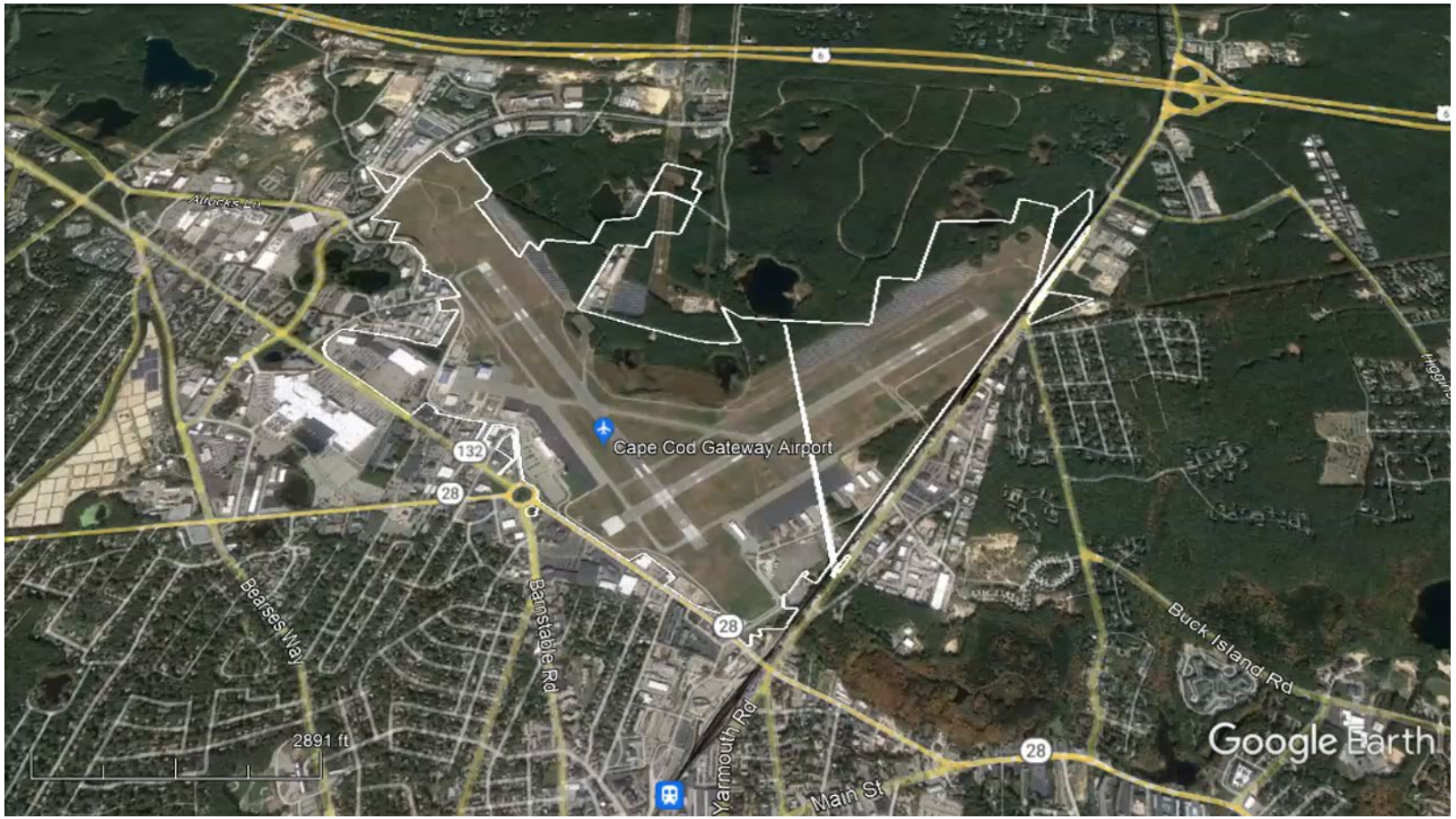
GATEWAY CAPE COD AIRPORT

Airport Background - Today

2022 Master Plan Overview - Recommendations



Major Master Plan Projects



Environmental Review – Project Team

Epsilon Associates

Epsilon is serving as the lead environmental consultant for the Project. Epsilon will be responsible for all document preparation and coordination with the Airport

Airport Solutions Group

ASG is serving as Airport planners, engineers, designers, and will provide constructability assessments

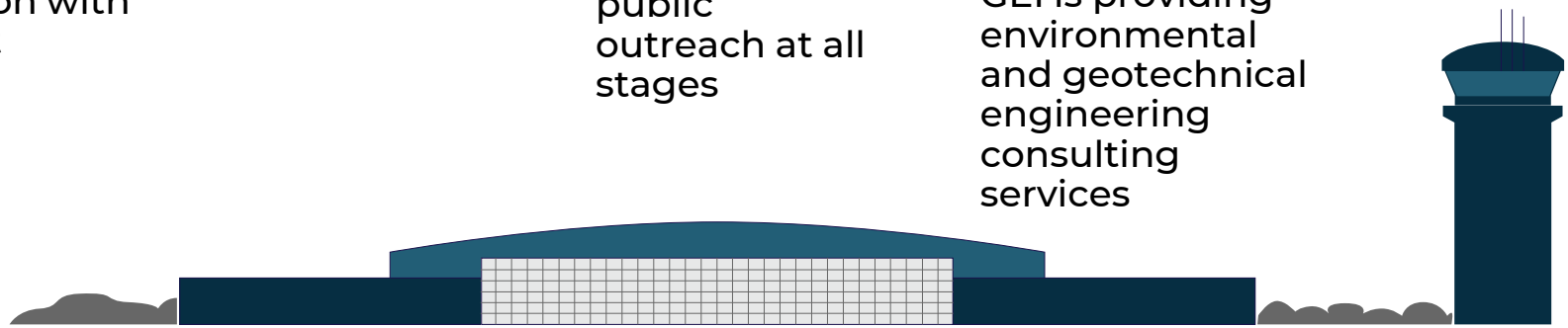
Howard Stein Hudson

HSH is the project's public involvement team providing community engagement, consensus-building, and public outreach at all stages

Commonwealth Heritage Group & GEI

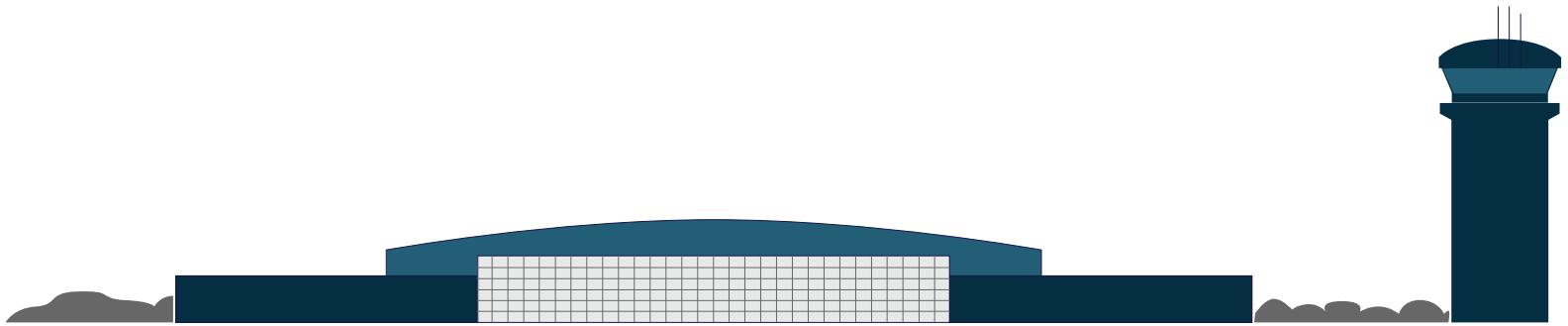
CHG is providing cultural resource management, and historic preservation planning services

GEI is providing environmental and geotechnical engineering consulting services



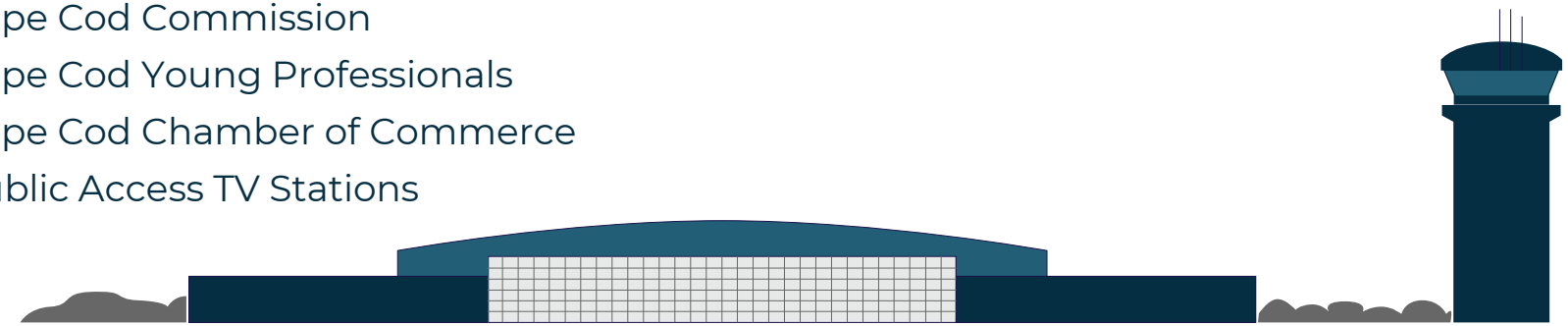
ENVIRONMENTAL - REGULATORY REVIEW PROCESS

- ✈Airports are required under federal law to evaluate impacts of proposed airport improvements on the environment.
- ✈FAA defines impact categories which must be addressed in the NEPA, EA/EIR review processes.
- ✈Projects also trigger state review under MEPA and local review under the Cape Cod Regional Policy Plan
- ✈Airport will seek a joint report filings and review with the NEPA EA/EIR, MEPA (ENF/EIR) and the Cape Cod Commission.



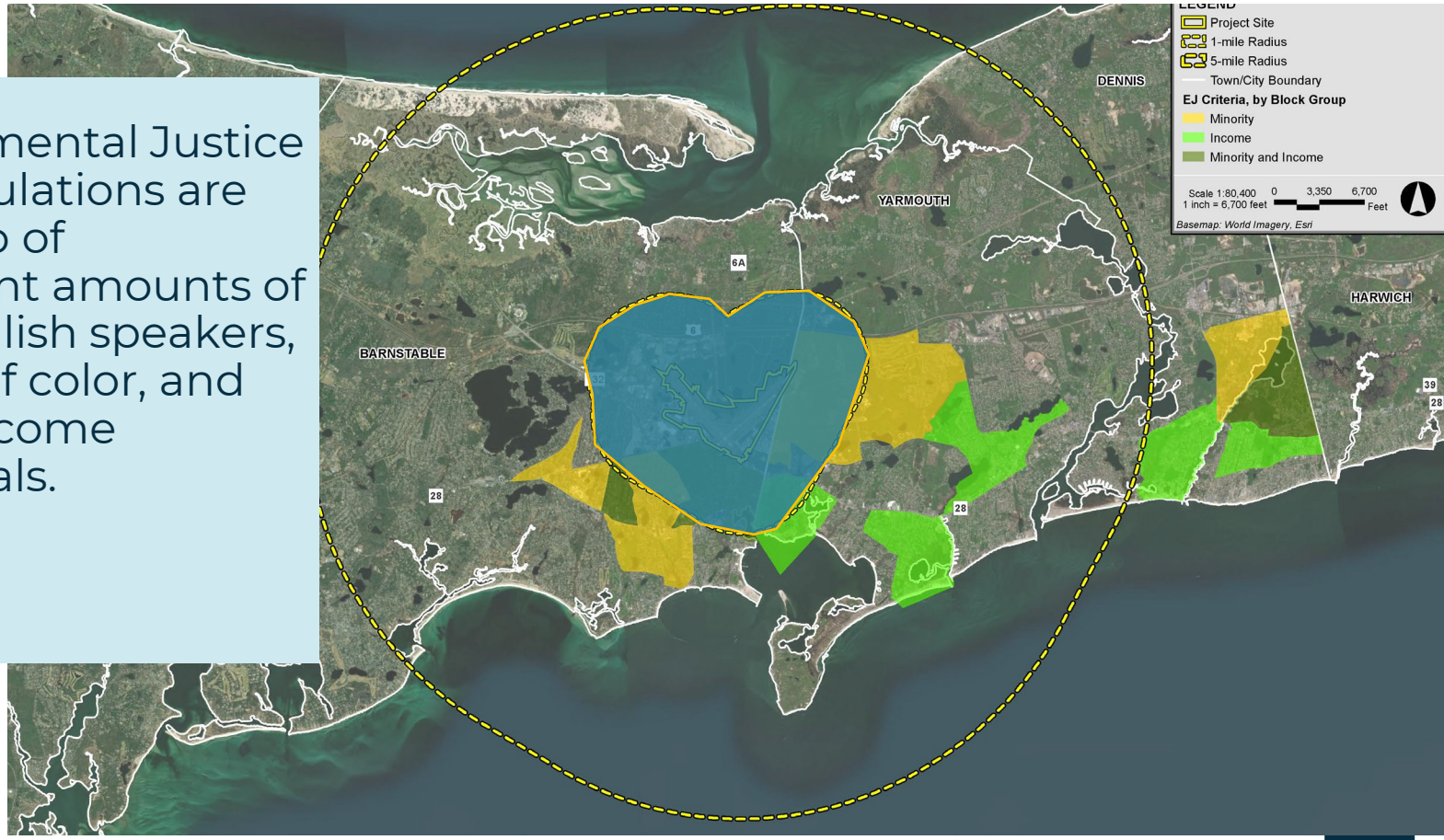
Environmental Review – Outreach

- ✈Project website **https://flyhya.com/environmental-assessment/**
- ✈Project email **envirohya@epsilonassociates.com**
- ✈Cape Cod Times
  - Print run: 10/16, 10/19, 10/21
  - Daily online advertisement
- ✈Barnstable Patriot
  - Print run: 10/14
  - Daily online advertisement
- ✈Press releases sent to local newspapers
- ✈Multilingual postcard distributed within 5 miles of airport
- ✈MEPA EJ Screening Form translated and distributed
- ✈Meeting notice shared with
  - Cape Cod Commission
  - Cape Cod Young Professionals
  - Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce
  - Public Access TV Stations



Environmental Justice Populations

- Environmental Justice (EJ) populations are made up of significant amounts of non-English speakers, people of color, and lower-income individuals.



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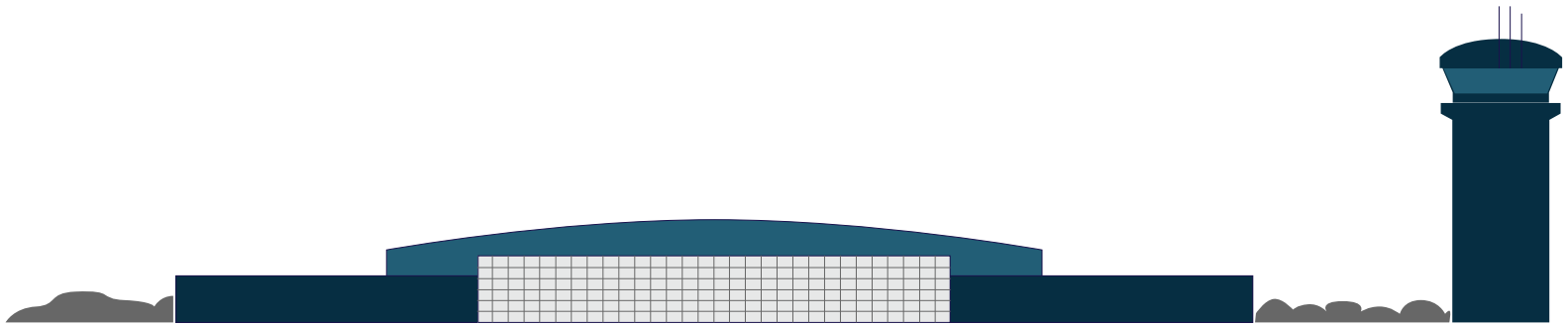
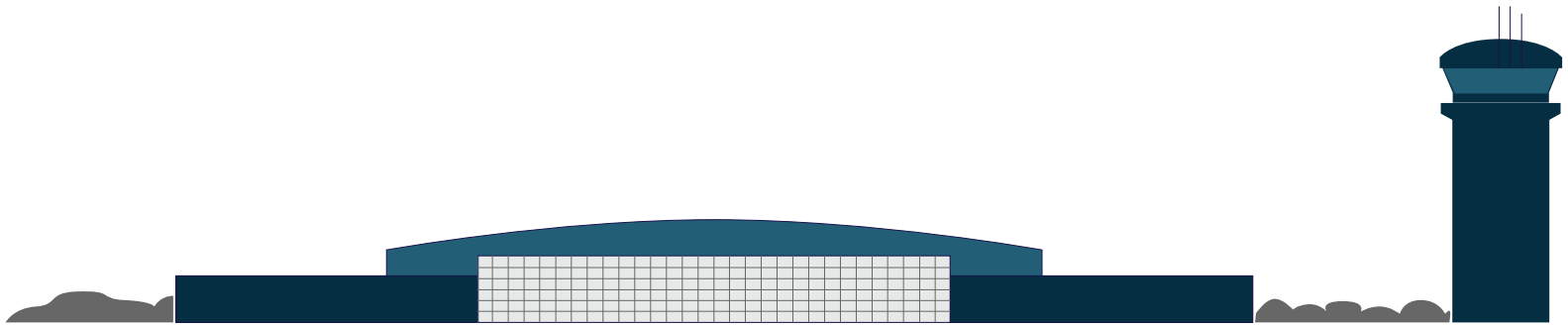
Environmental Review – Outreach to EJ Populations

- Identified isolated language pockets: Spanish and Portuguese
- Translated and distributed MEPA EJ Screening Form
- Multilingual postcard included Spanish and Portuguese messaging
- Translated meeting notice shared with:
  - MEPA EJ distribution list
  - Cape International Language Academy
  - The New England Wellness Foundation (NEWF)
  - Cape Cod Community College



Stay Informed!

- Public meetings ahead of major milestones
  - All public meetings will be noticed on the project website and in local newspapers
- Project website
  - https://flyhya.com/environmental-assessment/
- Project email
  - envirohya@epsilonassociates.com
- Subscribe to receive email updates
  - Reach out to the project email to be added to the project email list



Environmental Review - Timeline

Project Team Data Collection

MEPA ENF
Started Writing Summer 2022 with submittal November 2022

Combined Draft NEPA EA, MEPA EIR, and CCC DRI
December 2022 – August 2023

Combined Final NEPA EA MEPA EIR, and CCC DRI Decision
July 2023 - March 2024

Permitting
2024

1st Project Public Meeting
October 27 @ Airport

2nd & 3rd Public Meetings
Post ENF filing site visit/meeting with MEPA staff and public
Public Comments

4th & 5th Meetings
Public comments part of Draft EA/EIR, Cape Cod Commission meetings

Public/agency comments included in Final EA/EIR. Cape Cod Commission full-commission meeting to vote on project.

During the entire process, there will be at least 5 public meetings plus opportunity to respond to various Federal, State and Local reports

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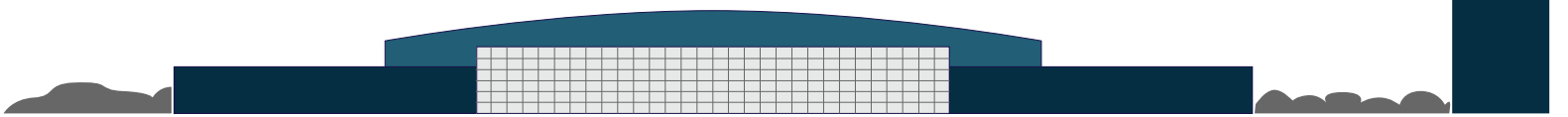

Data Collection and Analysis Process

- Extensive existing condition information detailed in Master Plan.
- Site investigations in September 2022.
- Data collection via UAS for topography survey, existing conditions, limits of waterbodies and grading design.

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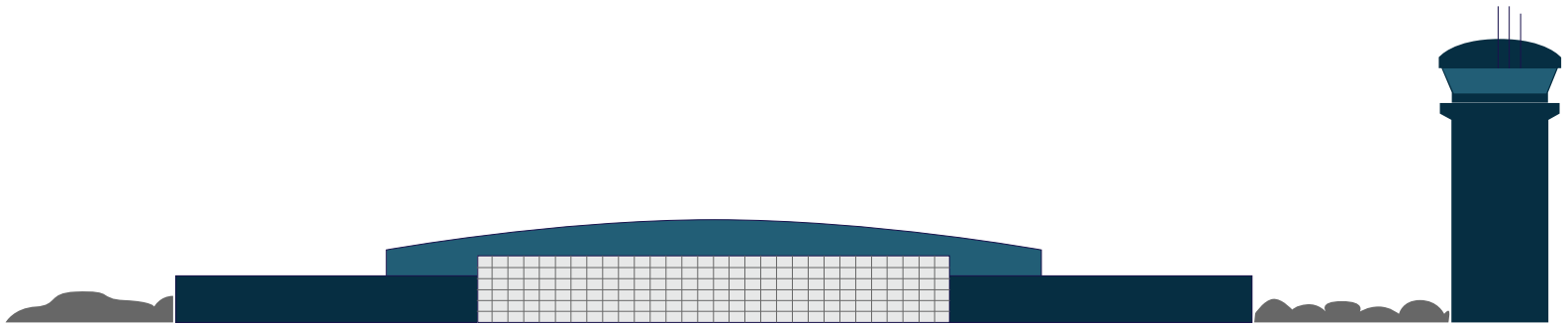
Environmental Review Process – Federal

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- **Jurisdiction**: Projects undertaken by a federal agency or requiring a license or **permit**, land transfer, or **funding** from a federal agency
- Requires review under federal law to evaluate impacts of proposed airport improvements on the environment.
- Necessitates environmental impact analyses of proposed airport actions that are subject to FAA decision and/or funding.
- The process must be completed before permitting.
- Submits documents in the form of an **Environmental Assessment**
- Final decision is called a **Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**



Environmental Review Process – Federal

Content of an FAA Environmental Assessment

- Purpose and Need
- Proposed Project
- Alternatives
- Existing Conditions
- Environmental Consequences
- Findings

- ✈ Air Quality
- ✈ Biological Resources
- ✈ Climate
- ✈ Coastal Resources
- ✈ Department of Transportation Act, Section 4(f)
- ✈ Farmlands
- ✈ Hazardous Materials, Solid Waste, and Pollution Prevention
- ✈ Historical, Architectural, Archeological, and Cultural Resources
- ✈ Land Use
- ✈ Natural Resources and Energy Supply
- ✈ Noise and Noise-Compatible Land Use
- ✈ Socioeconomics, Environmental Justice, and Children's Environmental Health and Safety Risks
- ✈ Visual Effects
- ✈ Water Resources
- ✈ Cumulative Impacts
- ✈ Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

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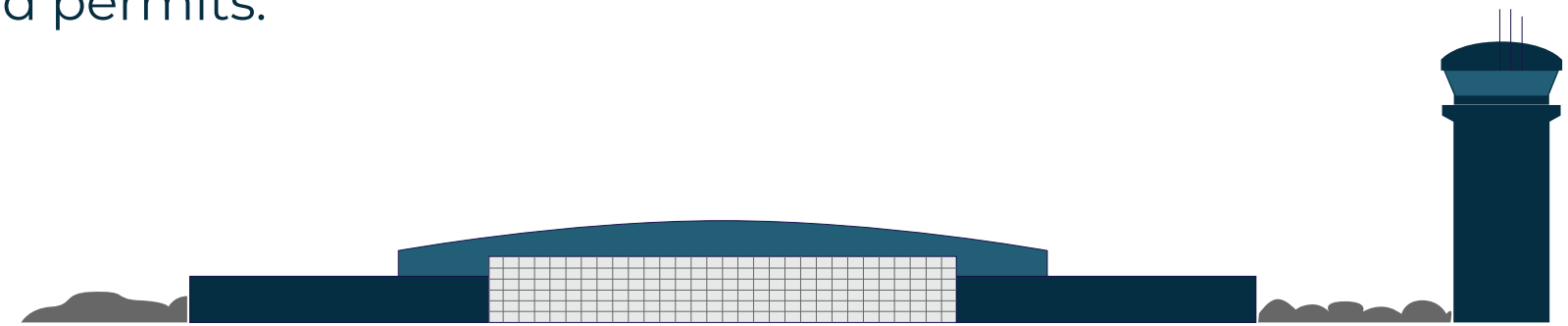
Environmental Review Process – State

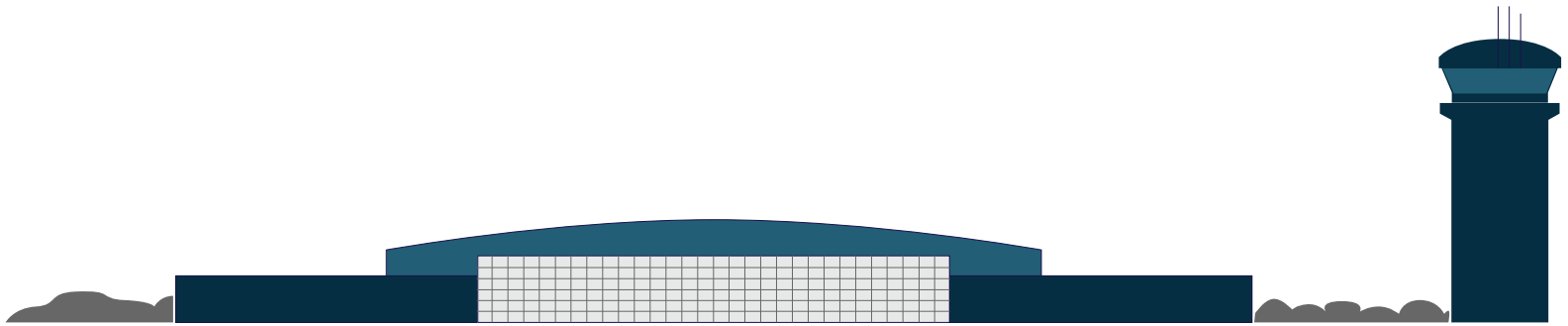
Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)

- **Jurisdiction**: Projects undertaken by a state agency or requiring a license or **permit**, land transfer, or **funding** from a state agency if they exceed certain thresholds established in the MEPA regulations.
- Reviews potential environmental impacts and analyses measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate damage to the environment.
- Implements meetings and citizen/agency comment
- Submits documents in the form of an **Environmental Notification Form (ENF), Draft EIR, & Final EIR**
- MEPA issues a **Certificate** for each submittal documenting compliance with MEPA, scope for next submittal, findings, and required permits.



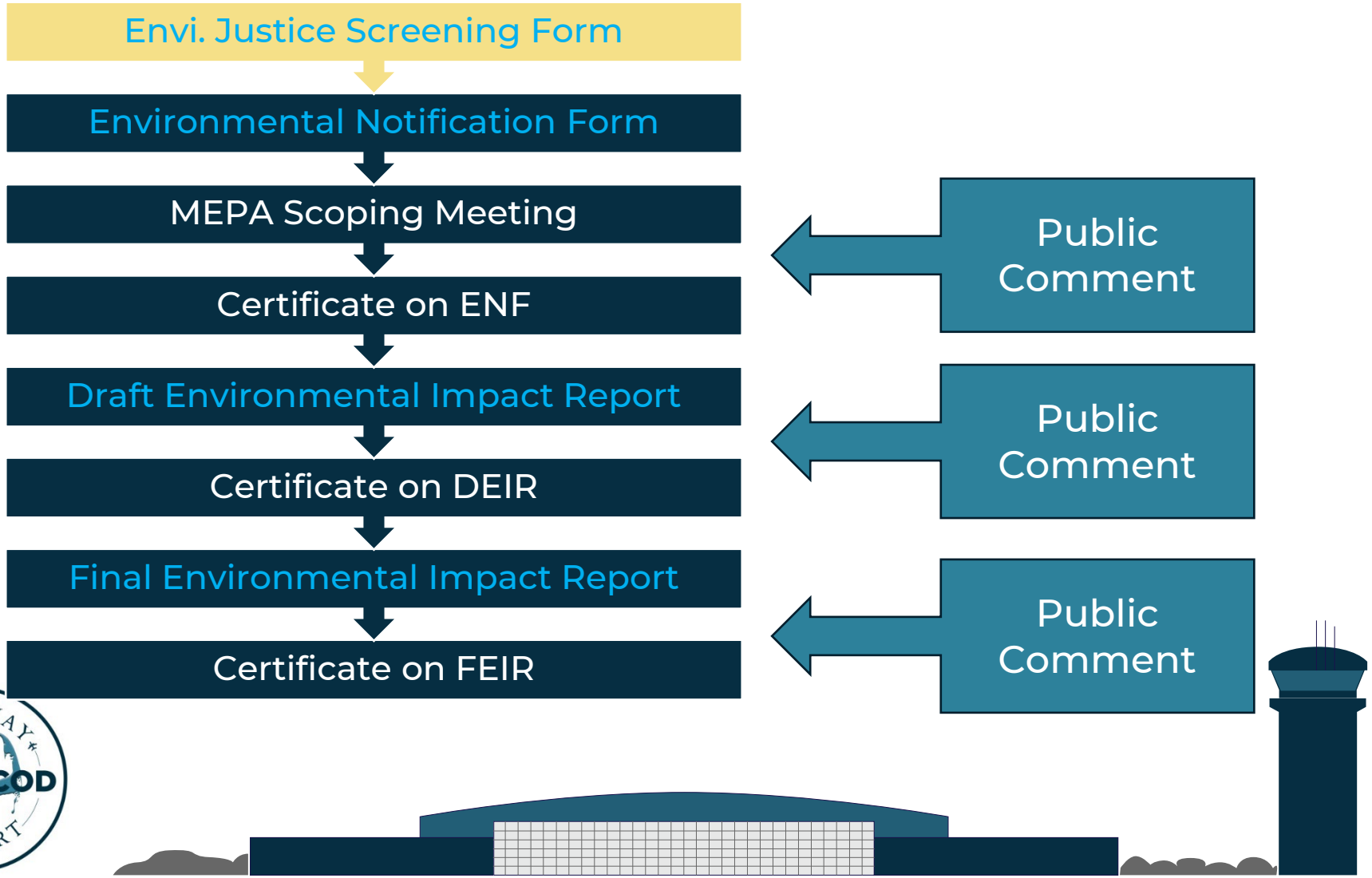
Environmental Review Process - State

- ✈MEPA is not a permitting process
- ✈Thresholds relative to the Master Plan:
  - **11.03(1)a(2) Creation of ten or more acres of impervious area.**
  - **11.03(6)b(iii) Expansion of an existing runway at an airport**
  - **11.03(6)b(iv) Construction of a New taxiway at an airport**
- ✈Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Analysis
- ✈Climate Change and Resiliency Analysis
- ✈Environmental Justice and Public Health Impact analysis



Environmental Review Process – State

MEPA Review



Environmental Review - Local

CAPE COD REGIONAL POLICY PLAN

FRAMING THE FUTURE

CAPE COD COMMISSION | 2018

Cape Cod Commission

Barnstable County's regional planning and regulatory agency. Through the Cape Cod Commission Act, the Commission is responsible for balancing the protection of the region's resources

Cape Cod Regional Policy Plan – Amended 2021

- ✈Analysis to determine the comparative benefits and detriments of a project and its consistency with the Cape Cod Regional Policy Plan (RPP) and local comprehensive plans and goals.
- ✈Document submitted in the form of a **Development of Regional Impact (DRI)**
  - o Examines impacts on: Natural, Built, and Community Systems
  - o Example of a Natural System Goals and Objective:
    - Water Resources has defined goal of maintaining high quality drinking water
    - Objective WR1 – Protect, preserve and restore groundwater quality

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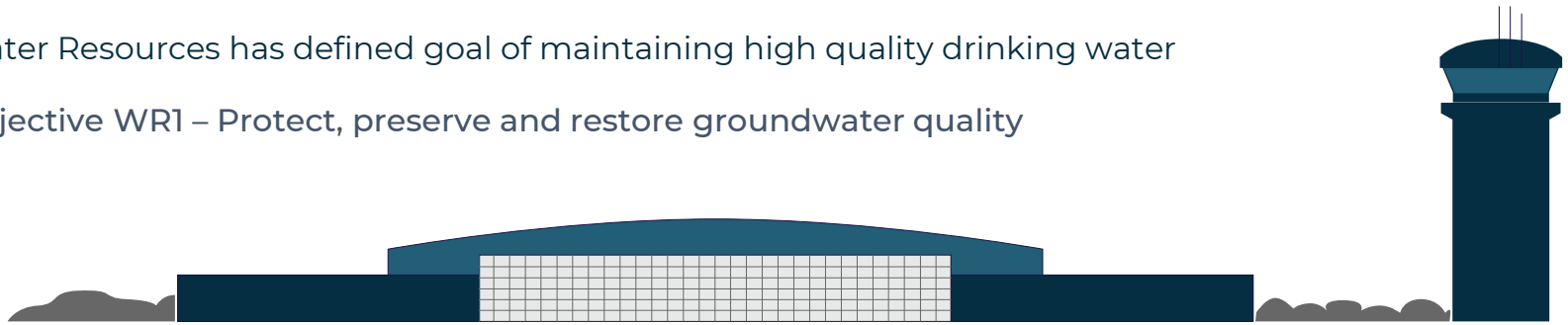

Environmental Review Next Steps

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Construction as projects are funded based on priority and cost

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Public comments part of Draft EA/EIR, Cape Cod Commission meetings

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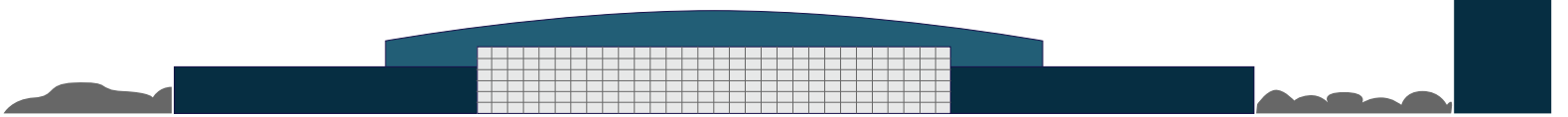

Project Contacts

Airport

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kservis@flyhya.com
508-775-2020

Matt Elia
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508-775-2020

Project Team

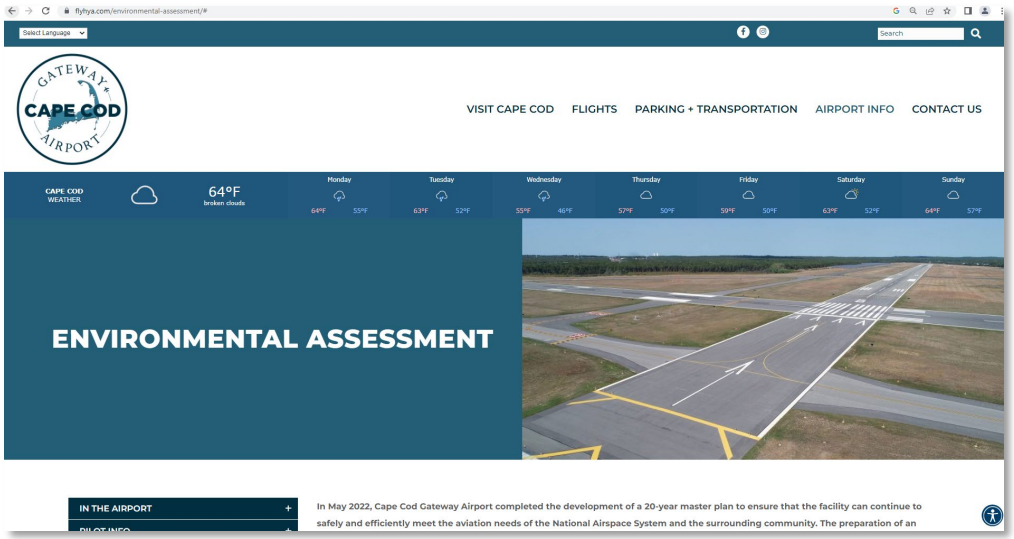
Alyssa Jacobs
Project Manager
Epsilon Associates, Inc.
978-897-7100

Website (all documents posted here)

https://flyhya.com/environmental-assessment/

Project Email

envirohya@epsilonassociates.com



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